

## Connecting for Conservation



**C4C Santa Fe**

## C4C Santa Fe Newsletter - Summer Issue

July 13, 2026

C4C SF Member,

Summer is here, the birds are chirping and the breeze is warm! We are excited to share updates on the network's upcoming events, projects, and resources to support collaboration and conservation efforts across the greater Santa Fe region. Please enjoy the Summer edition of Connecting for Conservation.

As always, email me at [berit.robnett@nmhu.edu](mailto:berit.robnett@nmhu.edu) with any comments, questions, or submissions!

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### A word from C4C's coordinator, Berit Robnett:

As I wrap up my term as an AmeriCorps VISTA with the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Institute, I wanted to say thank you! This opportunities has been wonderful and something I'll think about fondly as I continue my journey. It's been a year full of learning, trail and error, and making meaningful connections I hope to continue to nurture. Keep an eye out for further communication as my service term comes to a close! As always, you can reach me at [berit.robnett@nmhu.edu](mailto:berit.robnett@nmhu.edu).

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### Local, statewide, and regional news!

**"Fire crews monitor conditions and containment progress on multiple wildfires "**

July 8, 2026, Peyton Spellacy, KOAT

Several fires have been burning in the northern region in New Mexico, including McCauley Springs, Sacaton, and in southwest Colorado. These fires have been contained, the crews are continuing to slow the spread and investigate the causes. A nine day red flag warning was issued for those in the area.

The crew is continuing to work on the Sacaton fire, "the fire is 11% contained after burning more than 9,300 acres in the Gila National Forest. Mandatory evacuation orders remain in effect for the Willow Creek community. Officials stated that lightning caused the Sacaton Fire."

Weather could impact the fire severity and the communities around them.

Read more of the details [here](#).

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## **"Burned Area Emergency Response Team completes assessment for McCauley Springs Fire"**

July 9, 2026, Claudia Brookshire, Santa Fe National Forest (USDA)

The McCauley Springs Fire began June 24th and has burned over 715 acres in the Jemez Ranger District. As of July 9th, the fire is 93% contained. The Santa Fe National Forest has released the results of a Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) assessment as of early July.

"A multi-disciplinary BAER team evaluated the burned area to identify risks to human life, property, and critical resources. Over 80% of the fire was mapped as low soil burn severity, meaning most tree canopies and ground cover remain intact, reducing the risk of erosion and runoff. About 12% of the area showed moderate burn severity, with patchy ground cover loss and some water-repellent soils. Less than 1% was classified as high burn severity, where vegetation and soil were heavily impacted."

As the crews continue to work and respond to needs, a temporary closure of Forest Road 4B along with several camp site closures are in affect due to the impacts and safety concerns in the area.

Remember to stay alert and updated on weather conditions that may increase safety risks and health concerns.

Read more [here](#).

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## **"The West is seeing fewer wildfires, but they're more destructive than ever, study finds"**

May 22, 2026, Bryce Dix, KUNM Reporter

Recent studies analyzing the past 30 years have come to interesting conclusions about wildfire data in the West. This study found that the "American West is actually experiencing far fewer wildfires than in the past. When comparing two separate 15-year chunks of data from 1992–2006 and 2007–2020, there were 31% fewer fires annually."

Although these findings might come as a surprise, this study highlights other statistics about wildfire severity.

"Researchers found:

- Wildfires larger than 1,000 acres increased by 3%
- Wildfires larger than 25,000 acres increased by 63%
- Wildfires larger than 125,000 acres increased by 136%"

With a changing climate, these studies can help us to prepare for future fires. It's not an if, but a when!

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **Fire Restrictions and Risk Updates**

### **Emergency Stage II Fire Restrictions**

*Santa Fe National Forest, Sandoval, Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Mora and San Miguel Counties*

**Prohibitions** include:

- Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or charcoal, coal, or wood stove fire.
- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
- Possessing or using a motor vehicle off National Forest System roads unless solely for the purpose of parking in an area that is devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the roadway.

**Prohibitions** from **10:00am to 6:00pm** include:

- Welding or operating an acetylene or other torch with open flame.
- Operating a generator, chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine for felling, bucking, skidding, processing, road building and woodcutting or firewood gathering capable of igniting a fire.
- Blasting or using any type of explosive which is under a special use authorization/contract.

## Fire Danger Status

**San Juan Mountains (Western Santa Fe National Forest)**

*Extreme* Fire Danger Status

**Sangre De Cristo Mountains (Eastern Santa Fe National Forest)**

*High* Fire Danger Status

Visit the Santa Fe National Forest [website](#) for more information.

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## Upcoming events and trainings...

**Free Green Waste Disposal Days in Santa Fe County**

### *Santa Fe County*

**When:** July 12th and 13th, August 7th and 8th, September 4th and 5th

**Where:** Participating Convenience Centers:

- Stanley, 2 CO14 A, Santa Fe, 87056, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Jacona, 1696 NM502, Santa Fe, 87506, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Eldorado, 28736 US 285, Santa Fe, 87508, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Several Convenience Centers in the Santa Fe county area are accepting green waste at no charge, starting July into September. County residents must have a valid solid waste permit to bring their waste.

County residents with a valid solid waste permit can bring yard waste, lawn clippings, leaves, and tree trimmings under 18 inches diameter at no charge to drop off. Green waste is processed into mulch and compost, which is safer and cleaner than openly burning it.

Green waste does not include weeds, cholla cactus, sod, root balls, stumps, lumber, treated wood, dirt, rocks, or construction materials.

This is a great opportunity to proactively create defensible space and wildfire preparedness with the support of our community resources. Clearing green waste around your house is a great way to reduce wildfire fuel.

For more information visit the Santa Fe County [website](#)!

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## **Save The Date: New Mexico Wildland Urban Fire Summit**

### *New Mexico Counties*

**When:** October 14-16, 2026

**Where:** Silver City, New Mexico

The Wildland Urban Fire Summit is calling for presentations:

"We are soliciting short, mini presentations on projects in the WUI. Please see the attached call for presentations for details. Presentations should be related to our theme, and relating to a project within the WUI.

Presentations should be approximately 10 minutes long, allowing an additional 5 minutes for questions.

Submission Requirements:

- Maximum 20-word title (including subtitle)
- Maximum 100-word description
- Speaker biography (short)
- Audio/visual and other needs

Proposals are due Thursday August 20, 2026 to [hwoods@nmcounties.org](mailto:hwoods@nmcounties.org)

## Call for Presentations

New Mexico Wildland Urban Fire Summit

**October 14-16, 2026**

**Silver City, NM**



## Theme

Our 2026 theme is: **Adapting Together in a Changing Fire Ecosystem**. We are focusing on how communities, landscape management and wildfire response can adapt to be safer and more effective in the changing fire ecosystem. We will be theming our presentations to the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy pillars of: Fire Adapted Communities, Restore and Maintain Resilient Landscapes., and Safe and Effective Wildfire Response

## Audience

The NM Wildland Urban Summit is attended by community members, fire service volunteers and professionals, non-profit conservation groups engaged in fire adaptation, and federal, state, and local government representatives.

## Presentation Requirements

We are soliciting presentations on projects in the WUI related to our theme, whether it is an effective way to engage a community, an innovative treatment method, or a new response strategy.

Presentations should be approximately 10 minutes long, allowing an additional 5 minutes for questions.

**Submission Requirements** (due Thursday, August 20, 2026, to [hwoods@nmcounities.org](mailto:hwoods@nmcounities.org))

- Maximum 20-word title (including subtitle)
- Maximum 100-word description
- Speaker biography (short)
- Audio/visual and other needs

Proposals are due **Thursday August 20, 2026**

Selected presentations will be announced by **August 27, 2026**.

## Contact Information

Contact Hannah Kase Woods for more information: 505-820-8102 or [hwoods@nmcounities.org](mailto:hwoods@nmcounities.org)

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## Hands on Earth Diving into Watersheds: Nature Learning Camp

*Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance*

**When:** Monday July 20th - Thursday July 23rd

**Where:** Story Ranch - Mineral Hill

**Ages:** 10-13

**Registration:** \$25.00

Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance is hosting an overnight learning camp for children ages 10 to 13. This camp is focused on educating youth about land and water through outdoor activities focused on watershed health. This camp is a great way to engage children in learning about their local earth systems and how they can care for the nature in our backyards!

Registration is required to participate, the fee includes food and gear for the camp.

Registration is required, contact Renee Hernandez to reserve your spot:

[rhernandez@hermitspeakwatersheds.org](mailto:rhernandez@hermitspeakwatersheds.org)



**HERMIT'S PEAK**  
WATERSHED ALLIANCE

# HANDS ON EARTH

## DIVING INTO WATERSHEDS

### NATURE LEARNING CAMP



**MONDAY JULY 20TH - THURSDAY JULY 23RD**



**THIS IS AN OVERNIGHT LEARNING CAMP**



**LOCATION: STORY RANCH - MINERAL HILL**



**AGES: 10 - 13**

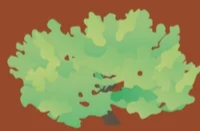


**REGISTRATION FEE: \$25.00**  
THIS FEE COVERS HEALTHY FOOD AND GEAR



#### DIVE INTO & LEARN:

THE WAY LAND AND WATER WORK TOGETHER, MACRO INVERTEBRATES ACTIVITY, NICE OUTDOOR SETTING, DIVERSE ACTIVITIES, FOCUS ON WATERSHED HEALTH



LEARN ABOUT  
CARING FOR NATURE  
IN OUR BACKYARD

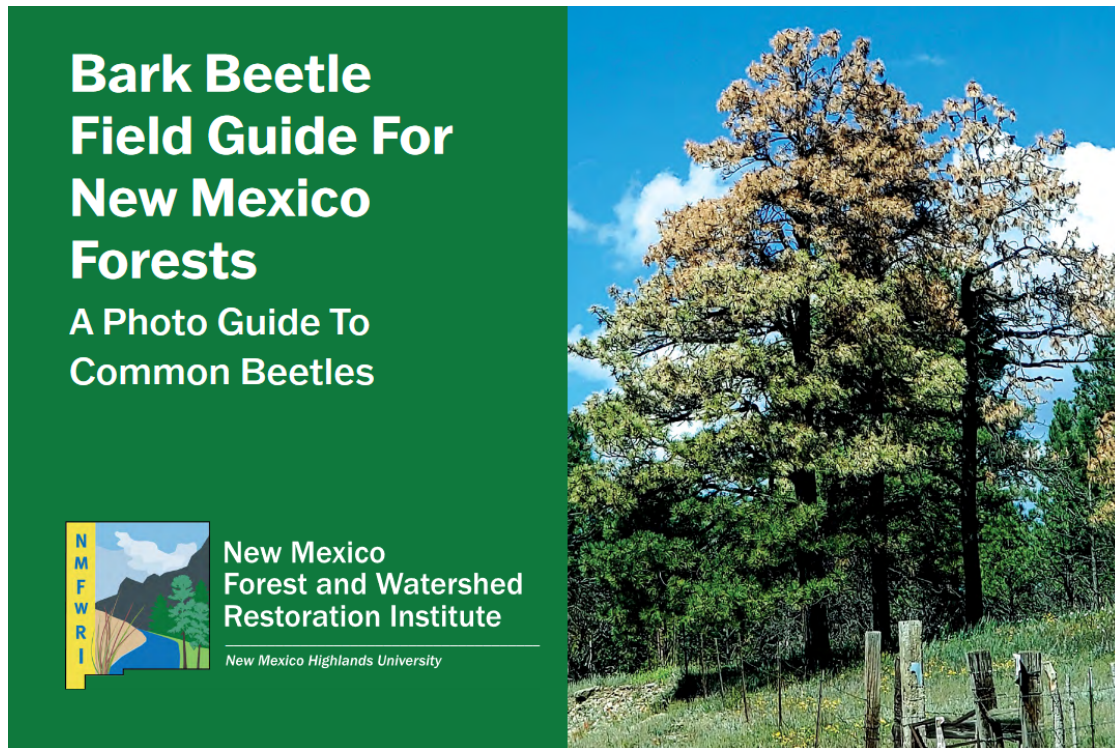


### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

CONTACT RENEE HERNANDEZ TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

PHONE: 1-505-310-2612 | E-MAIL: [RHernandez@hermitspeakwatersheds.org](mailto:RHernandez@hermitspeakwatersheds.org)

## Highlighted Resources...



## Bark Beetle Field Guide

New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institutes

The NMFWR I has published an updated bark beetle field guide for New Mexico. This guide highlights common bark beetles among Juniper, Pines, Douglas-Fir, White Fir, Corkbark Fir, and Spruces. This book is filled with photographs to help with identification and showcases how these beetle interact within our forests.

Click here to view the [Bark Beetle Field Guide](#).

The Institute has resources on the signs and symptoms of bark beetles as well. This guide varies from the field guide, highlighting the signs and symptoms identification.

Click here to view the [Bark Beetle Signs and Symptoms Guide](#).

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## Keep up to date with prescribed burns and fire updates!

### New Mexico Fire Information

Check out [nmfireinfo.com](https://nmfireinfo.com) to keep up with burn information and news across the state. Here are several key updates:

- July 8, 2026 - [Sacaton Fire Updates](#)
- July 6, 2026 - [Beehive Fire Updates](#)

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## Highlighted Job Posting...

### District Forester, New Mexico Forestry Division

*Socorro-based (EMNRD #5336)*

Join the New Mexico Forestry as a District Forester with the Socorro county. This full-time position fosters forest management, watershed protection, and wildfire response across non-federal lands. The position responsibilities include oversee of budget, budget, staff, and regulatory compliance to ensure healthy and resilient forests. The roles also deliver technical assistance and fuel reduction projects to local landowners and communities.

**Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in any field and four (4) years of relevant experience in this occupation. Any combination of education from an accredited college or university and/or related experience in this occupation totaling eight (8) years may substitute for the required education and experience.

**Annual Pay:** \$83,790 - \$134,063

Deadline to apply is July 15th.

Learn more or apply [here](#).

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## The Forest Stewards Youth Corps

*The Forest Stewards Guild*

Applications are open for seasonal Youth Corps position with the Forest Guild's Fall Fire & Fuels program. The program runs from August 19th-November 13th, 2026. Applications are open for both Fall Crew Members and Crew Leads. Locations include: Jemez Pueblos Natural Resources Department, Mountainair and Espanola Forest Service Ranger Districts.

The fall Forest Stewards Youth Corps (FSYC) program builds on the success of the summer FSYC program by creating employment, education, and training opportunities for recent high school and college graduates (18-25). Like the summer FSYC program, fall fire and fuels FSYC crews are hosted and mentored by U.S. Forest Service ranger districts and Jemez Pueblo Natural Resource Department.

The fall FSYC program prepares participants for careers in natural resource management by providing them with training and certifications in:

- National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Basic Wildland Fire Fighting (S-130/190)
- Wildland fire chainsaw use (S-212)
- CPR and first-aid
- Defensive driving
- Forestry
- Natural resource management projects including trail building, wildlife habitat projects, range improvements, and others.
- Leadership development

- Job skills such as resume and cover letter writing.

**Compensation:**

Crew Leads: \$20 an hour

Crew Members: \$18 an hour

For more information or to apply, visit The Forest Guild's [website](#).

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**Grassroots Outreach Associate***New Mexico Wild*

New Mexico Wild is hiring a part time, seasonal position. As the Grassroots Outreach Associate you are primarily responsible for outreach and volunteer coordination through tabling, event planning, and result tracking.

**Qualifications:**

- Genuine passion for conservation and New Mexico's public lands, wildlife and water
- Clear, warm, and effective communication skills
- Strong reliability, follow-through, and attention to detail
- Interest and ability to engage members of the public in conversation about conservation issues

**Hourly Pay: \$20**

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Click [here](#) to learn more or to apply!

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If you would like any events/resources/etc. to be featured in the next issue, please email us passing along the information or submit the details using this link: [C4C Information Request Form](#)

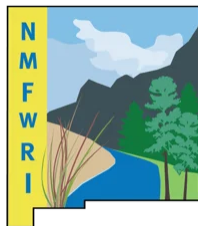
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Thank you,  
Berit Robnett and the NMFWRRI Collaboration Team

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*Know anyone that might benefit from joining the C4C Santa Fe?  
Join our newsletter here:*

<https://share.hsforms.com/1-ZnbEkuDQPe195ep48UUYggfubg>



**New Mexico  
Forest and Watershed  
Restoration Institute**

*New Mexico Highlands University*

New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute (NMFWR I), New Mexico  
Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico

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